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property tax resources. Anyway, in 1998, we distributed about \$9 million through that fund. It was a very successful effort. We had a very high ratio of distribution of dollars to communities that were going to be impinged by the levy caps, and think it was a successful fund. For the year 1999, the amendment that I'm proposing to you would cause \$7.8 million to be distributed through that fund as opposed to \$4 million that would be distributed without this amendment. Now, I'm not proposing that we spend an additional \$3.8 million, because the \$3.8 million will be distributed in one form or The only issue we have before us is whether it's distributed in this equalizing formula, or whether it goes out through another formula, the MIRF distribution formula. not new money. It simply changes the way in which the money might be distributed from a per capita distribution under MIRF to the equalizing basis that is in our Municipal Aid Pool Fund. And it does keep the amount that would be distributed much closer to the amount that was distributed in 1998, so we wouldn't see such large...we wouldn't see a large swing in the amount of money that was being distributed. Now,...and I'm also going to suggest to you that we achieve that result from something that we should have done last year, arguably, when we developed the formula, and that was relate the minimum effort capacity that's necessary to participate in the fund to the average property tax levy. Last year we simply placed a fixed amount in the statute. We should have been able to look forward far enough and see that, as we imposed the levy caps, that the fixed cent amount that we had in the statute would inappropriate, that the average levy would drop very quickly, and it did under the levy caps. So we now need to catch up with ourselves a little bit and recognize that the average property tax levy is a much better measure for the minimum effort that's required for participation in the municipal pool than the fixed cent per hundred rule that we had adopted last year. I'm sorry we weren't able to bring this amendment to you earlier in the It was only as we began to evaluate the potential aid distribution for this year that we became aware that there was an oversight in the development of the formula, and would ask you to make this adjustment. The other adjustment, if you will, that is in the amendment is one to...a portion of the ill that deals with airport authorities. If you recall, on Select File we offered an amendment that was a bill introduced by Senator